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## ITALY.

*Report from Naples—Inspection of vessels—Infectious diseases in Italy—Cholera and plague in various countries—Quarantine regulations—Suspect case on British steamship *Sidmouth* at Alexandria not plague—Congress of hygiene of habitations—Campaign against malaria in Italy.*

Passed Assistant Surgeon Eager reports, December 5, as follows:

During the week ended December 3, 1904, the following ships were inspected at Naples:

Date.	Name of ship.	Destination.	Steerage passengers inspected and passed.	Pieces of large baggage inspected and passed.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.	Number of steerage passengers recommended for rejection.
Dec. 3	Perugia .....	New York .....	250	75	355	4
3	Roma .....	do .....	278	85	380	5

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES—ITALY.

The number of cases of infectious diseases reported in Italy for the month of August, 1904, is as follows: Measles, 4,002; scarlatina, 829; smallpox, 961; enteric fever, 8,740; diphtheria, 1,395; puerperal fever, 213; pulmonary tuberculosis, 725; malarial disease, 61,469; pellagra, 252; anthrax, 634, and glanders 3.

For the week ended December 1, 1904, the following reports were officially registered:

*Smallpox.*—This disease is still prevailing in the province of Lecce, but the number of infected places and cases reported is lessening. Cases are reported in the province of Palermo (Palermo, Terrasini, Monreale), in Bivona (Girgenti), in the provinces of Potenza, Cosenza, Genova, Perugia, Novara, at Mestre (Venezia), and at S. Teodoro (Messina).

*Measles.*—An epidemic prevails at S. Sepolcro (Arezzo).

*Scarlatina.*—There are 40 cases in Turin.

*Enteric fever.*—An epidemic prevails at Sassocorvaro (Pesaro), and there are some cases in Rome and Milan.

*Diphtheria.*—A very bad epidemic is reported in Casola Valsenio (Ravenna), and some cases in Rome, Milan, and Arcidosso (Grosseto).

## PLAQUE—EGYPT.

The plague report for Egypt for the week ended November 17, gives 1 fatal case, a native, who died at Kafir-el-Amar, November 12, making a total number of 11 cases and 6 deaths since the outbreak, September 3, 1904. No cases were reported elsewhere.

## EGYPT—QUARANTINE REGULATIONS.

Egypt being at the present time free from plague, outgoing quarantine has been suppressed.

## SUSPECTED PLAGUE ON THE BRITISH STEAMER SIDMOUTH.

The British steamship *Sidmouth* left Kurrachee, October 27, and Suez and Port Said, respectively, November 10 and 11. Owing to damage

at sea, she was obliged to call at Alexandria, November 17. She carried a crew composed of 26 persons and a cargo of wheat bound for Hull. At the medical inspection in the harbor of Alexandria a suspicious case of plague was found in the person of a fireman, a native Abyssinian, embarked at Port Said. The patient was landed at Gabbari lazaretto and all necessary action taken. On the bacteriological investigation the illness did not prove to be plague and the ship was therefore granted free pratique.

SWEDEN—QUARANTINE REGULATIONS.

By decree dated October 28, the Royal College of Commerce, Sweden, declared the government of Samara, Russia, to be infected with cholera.

PLAQUE—ADEN.

Bubonic plague has again taken hold at Aden, Arabia. From October 26 to November 25, there were 21 cases and 9 deaths officially reported.

ITALY—QUARANTINE REGULATIONS.

By an order dated November 26, 1904, arrivals from Aden at Italian ports are subjected to the ordinance of February 23, 1902, against plague.

PLAQUE—PARAGUAY.

An official report, dated October 6, from the Belgian consulate at Asuncion published by the Belgian Government states that, though the existence of plague at Asuncion is denied, it is beyond question that cases of that malady have been observed by many local physicians. It appears, says the consular report, to be too true that the epidemic has broken out anew, though in a benign form. Positive figures are not given, but it is reckoned that about 20 cases occur each week with a mortality of 50 per cent.

CHOLERA—RUSSIA.

An unofficial telegram from St. Petersburg, dated December 2, states that from November 22 to 28 there were 914 cases of Asiatic cholera, with 363 deaths, reported in Erivan, and that, at Tachken November 27, 8 deaths among 18 cases of cholera were declared.

CONGRESS OF HYGIENE OF HABITATIONS—PARIS.

The International Congress of the Hygiene of Habitations was inaugurated at Paris, November 3, in the amphitheater of the School of Medicine, being the first reunion for the purpose of technical engineers, hygienists, and representatives of the great cities. At the opening meeting, the French minister of public instruction, M. Chaumie, presided and, in his address to the congress, called attention to the special importance of the regulation of dwelling places as a protection against contagious diseases. Senator Strauss reviewed the means at the disposal of engineers and architects based upon the medical knowledge gained in the campaign against tuberculosis, a malady notably perpetuated and diffused by faulty construction of houses. He affirmed that it is to-day inexcusable for a government or municipality to fail to interest itself in the question of tuberculosis, a disease whose principal

foci of contagion are found in insalubrious homes. Representatives of numerous cities, especially prominent being the envoys of Berlin and Prague, addressed the congress. A section of the congress devoted its attention to floating habitations, namely, ships of every kind.

#### CAMPAIGN AGAINST MALARIA IN ITALY.

In view of the sanitary efforts that will be necessary to contend with malaria in Panama, a special interest from an American standpoint attaches to the campaign that is being vigorously pushed against this disease in the Roman Campagna, a section once thickly peopled, the site of prosperous cities, but now, owing to malaria, a desert waste, not more than one-tenth of which is under cultivation. The first inroads of malaria in the once flourishing Campagna were attributed to the neglect of the cultivation of land incident to changed social conditions brought about by the decline of the Roman Republic. In the past great efforts have been made, both by the papal and the Italian governments, to induce cultivation of this vast area, but owing to unfavorable economic conditions little has been heretofore accomplished. When malaria begins in May the section is practically deserted. The shepherds with their flocks take refuge in the mountains. With the discovery of the relation of mosquitoes to malaria a rational prophylaxis became possible. At present the railroad employees, whose occupation renders it necessary for them to remain at their posts during the unhealthy season, are protected by screened houses, mosquito masks, and prophylactic administration of quinine. Statistics of this work have heretofore been given in these reports.

In the month of October, 1904, in the seven zones of the Roman Campagna, where the Italian Red Cross Society is making its anti-malarial campaign, prophylactic doses of quinine were given to 2,433 persons, in addition to those whose treatment was begun in previous months. In the zones under observation there were reported, during the month, 13 primary cases of malarial disease, 88 relapses, and 62 cases of nonmalarial disease. Thirty four patients were sent to Rome for treatment in hospital.

#### JAPAN.

##### *Report from Yokohama—Inspection of vessels—Communicable diseases—Emigrants recommended for rejection.*

Assistant Surgeon Moore reports, November 26, as follows:

During the week ended November 19, 1904, four steamers having an aggregate personnel of 369 crew and 306 passengers were inspected, 141 steerage passengers were bathed, and 226 pieces of baggage were disinfected.

Reports of communicable diseases in Yokohama have been received as follows: For the week ended November 12: enteric fever, 4 cases, 2 deaths; scarlet fever, 1 case, no deaths; diphtheria, 1 case, no deaths. For the week ended November 19: enteric fever, 5 cases, no deaths; diphtheria, 1 case, no deaths; dysentery, 1 case, no deaths.

##### *Emigrants recommended for rejection.*

Number of emigrants per steamship *Mongolia* recommended November 30 for rejection: For Honolulu, 4; for San Francisco, 1.